

Exacerbating this concern is the composition and scope of power endowed to the control board. The fact that the people of Puerto Rico will have absolutely no say over who is appointed or what action they decide to take is blatant neocolonialism. It is OK to say to Puerto Ricans: Yes, please, wear the uniform of the United States, as they have done in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. If you went with me to the Mall, you would see a disproportionate number of names of Puerto Ricans who gave their lives on behalf of the United States. Recently, the Speaker awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to the Borinqueneers, the 65th Infantry Division, which was one of the most decorated in U.S. military history. Yes, it is OK. Please put on the uniform of the United States and go fight for your country. Die for America. But it is not OK for you to have a voice in your future. It is not OK for you to have self-governance.

If that control board—with no Puerto Rican representation—uses its superpowers under the bill as drafted and decides to close more schools and hospitals than have been closed, cut pensions to the bone, sell Puerto Rico's natural assets without any say by the elected representatives of the 3.5 million U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico, I am sure some would suggest we look the other way and say Puerto Ricans are worth less than any other U.S. citizen.

While there is some fancy language to pretend that the President will get to pick the board members, this is all a figleaf to hide the real levers of power. The board will be composed of four Republican appointees and three Democratic appointees, and in addition to being the gatekeeper to restructuring, it will have the power to veto laws and regulations, override budgets, determine the level of debt payments, and make in essence what is the governing body of any State, any municipality, or of the people Puerto Rico totally obsolete. They will decide—unelected, they will decide. To me, it is simply wrong and un-American to take away the basic democratic rights of the people of Puerto Rico.

The bill even puts speculating hedge funds above pensioners, including language to ensure that in any restructuring deal, the people who worked their entire lives—their entire lives—to help the island are put at the back of the line behind Wall Street.

I remind my colleagues that each and every Puerto Rican is an American citizen, many of whom have fought and died, as I said, for our country in every war over the past century. They deserve the same rights and respect as citizens in New Jersey or Wisconsin or Utah or any other State in the Nation. If they can do this in Puerto Rico, why not see any other State that sees a crisis have it become a reality as well.

Finally, the proposed legislation sensibly cuts minimum wage rules and new overtime protections that would apply to workers in Puerto Rico. At a

time when cities and States across the Nation are moving toward increasing the minimum wage, I cannot fathom why anyone would support decreasing it for Puerto Rico. With the poverty rate of approximately 45 percent, lowering people's wages is not a pro-growth strategy, as some have called it. It is a pro-migration strategy. We already see an incredible migration from Puerto Rico to places in the United States—most particularly Florida, New Jersey, New York, and other places in the country. Why? Because as an American citizen they have every right to reside anywhere in the United States. They also have a right to receive any right or privilege that any citizen has in the United States. So there is a brain drain leaving Puerto Rico coming to the mainland, which only exacerbates the problem in Puerto Rico. These unrelated riders are counterproductive and will only drive more Puerto Ricans to migrate to the mainland, where they will not have to work for subminimum wages.

I am afraid this bill provides little more than a bandaid on a bullet hole with regard to Puerto Rico's unsustainable debt. Mark my words, if we don't seize this opportunity to address the crisis in a meaningful way and in the right way, we will be back here a year from now, but we will be picking up the pieces because there will not be much left. So while it is absolutely clear that we need to act and act decisively and expediently to help our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico, just as important, we also need to get it right.

Working together and helping each other in a time of need is what this country is all about. When a hurricane hits the gulf coast or a tornado ravages the Midwest, I don't ask how many of my constituents in New Jersey were affected. Rather, I stand with my fellow Americans and fight to provide relief regardless of what State or territory they are from. That is why we call this country the United States of America.

Let's continue to honor that timeless American tradition. Let's honor our country's motto of "e pluribus unum," out of many, one. Let us provide our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico with the tools they need to help themselves. It is not a bailout. We are not going to give them any money. They are going to have to restructure and figure out themselves how they will get out of the mess, without taking away their self-governance. You can't preach democracy and human rights and then deny it to the American citizens of Puerto Rico.

With that, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. DAINES). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO LYUSHUN SHEN

Mr. REID. Mr. President, in the coming weeks, Representative Lyushun Shen from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office will be leaving his post and returning to Taiwan. Having worked with Representative Shen during his tenure in Washington DC, I would like to express my gratitude to him for his service.

As West Africa battled the ravages of Ebola and the world united to help address the epidemic in 2014, Representative Shen and the Taiwanese rose to the occasion. On behalf of the Taiwanese, Representative Shen pledged \$1 million to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to help the U.S. combat the Ebola virus and stabilize the region. This act of generosity came at a critical time and further demonstrated Taiwan's solidarity with the United States.

During his post in Washington, Representative Shen made important contributions to the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, GCTF. Representative Shen is a valued friend of the United States, and I thank him for his work and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR FIDUCIARY RULE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, retirement savings are crucial for our economic security, but too many Americans have little to no retirement savings because of low wages and the need to provide for their families.

Those who have been able to save for retirement are often confused by the unknowns of retirement planning and investing and depend on financial advisers to provide advice that is in their best interest.

However, loopholes in the retirement advice rules have allowed some advisers to recommend products that put profits ahead of their clients' best interest, hurting workers and their families, and jeopardizing our economic security.

The Department of Labor set out to update these decades-old rules to address conflicts of interest and require that financial advisers put their clients first, which is just plain common sense. Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues have voted to roll back this important consumer protection and voted

to block the Department's fiduciary rule, an effort I did not and would not support.

While most advisers operate under a best interest standard, some advisers steered their customers into investments that award big commissions and incentives to the adviser but are not in the best interest of the customer.

No one knows this better than the Toffels of Lindenhurst, IL.

Merlin Toffel was a Navy veteran and an electrician, and his wife, Elaine, was an accountant. After more than 40 years of work, they had built up an impressive nest egg, but when Merlin was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and could no longer manage their finances, Elaine sought investment advice from an investment broker at their local retail bank.

The broker told her to liquidate their retirement account and sold them variable annuities to the tune of \$650,000. Elaine trusted his advice because she thought that it was in her best interest. She later found out that those annuities charged fees in excess of \$26,000 a year, and if she needed to access the money right away for an emergency, she would be charged a surrender charge of more than \$45,000.

In the end, the Toffels lost more than \$50,000 because of the broker's conflicted advice. Unfortunately, they are not alone. This is unconscionable and should not be allowed.

The fiduciary rule will require advisers to disclose their fees and ensure access to quality financial advice, restore confidence to savers, and protect them from receiving conflicted advice, which has the potential to erode billions from retirement accounts of hard-working Americans.

The bottom line is that we need to support policies that safeguard worker retirement savings and help them prepare for retirement, and the fiduciary rule does just that.

It saddens me that my Republican colleagues have acted to undermine American workers and families by blocking this rule. Thankfully, their efforts here today will not prevail because the President will veto this attempt to dismantle this important rule.

REMEMBERING BOB BENNETT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, all of us mourn the passing of a distinguished former Member of this body, Senator Bob Bennett of Utah, who died of an illness on May 4.

I doubt that there were any in the Senate who did not truly like and admire Bob Bennett. His gentle spirit, his kindness, his civility, and his empathy for others were reflected in his work here for the people of Utah and for the Nation. Marcelle and I are fortunate to have called Bob and Joyce Bennett our friends while we served together.

Senator Bennett and I were poles apart on many issues that came before the Senate, but, as with many others in

this body, we were able to work together in good faith to find ways forward through many issues, knowing how important it was to our constituents, to the country, and to the Senate for us to do that. He followed the tradition of other highly respected Senators when I joined this body: He always kept his word.

At the very end of his life, as he lay in a hospital bed in Salt Lake City, we now have heard from his family of yet another sign of his decency and humanity, as he specially sought out Muslim members of the hospital staff to thank them and to personally apologize to them for what they have heard of the divisive and hateful messages and the pandering to fear that has spilled out from the current Presidential campaign. He wanted them to know that he and most Americans welcome them, appreciate them, and recognize the pain that these invectives have caused and continue to cause.

Reading and hearing his son's description of his dad's outreach in his final days touched me deeply, as I am sure is the case for all of us here and for all Americans of goodwill everywhere. All of us can learn from his poignant gestures, and we can resolve to deepen our own commitment to the eternal values—and the American values—that motivated him. What a powerful lesson he leaves for us all.

I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Salt Lake City Deseret News about this remarkable and telling episode from the final days of Senator Bennett's life be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From The Deseret News, May 19, 2016]

FORMER UTAH SEN. BOB BENNETT'S APOLOGY TO MUSLIMS RECEIVING ATTENTION FROM NEWS OUTLETS WORLDWIDE

(By Scott Stevens)

Weeks after former Utah Sen. Bob Bennett's death, several national news media outlets have published stories praising the Utah politician for comments he made regarding Muslims and their acceptance in America shortly before his death on May 4, 2016.

In the weeks following former Utah Sen. Bob Bennett's death, several national news media outlets published stories praising the Utah politician for comments he made about Muslims and their acceptance in America, shortly before his death.

In late April the Deseret News reported about Bennett's battle with pancreatic cancer and a stroke. He told the Deseret News "I want to go to every Muslim and say thank you for being in our country . . ." and, like many other politicians, Bennett expressed his distaste in the tone and tenor of the Republican presidential race as he remarked "I want to apologize on behalf of the Republican Party for Donald Trump."

The Daily Beast picked up on the Deseret News' interview with the Bennetts a few weeks after the former senator's death and followed up with their own interview with Bennett's family. "He would go to people with the hijab (on) and tell them he was glad they were in America, and they were welcome here," Bennett's wife Joyce told The Daily Beast. "He wanted to apologize on behalf of the Republican Party."

Quartz followed suit, citing the Deseret News and Daily Beast interviews with the Bennetts, and adding that Bennett's thoughts on the treatment of Muslims seemed to be frequently on his mind in the weeks and months leading up to his death.

NBC News echoed the report that in Bennett's last days he approached Muslims to offer his well-wishes to them—even going as far as to ask his son, Jim, if there were any Muslims in the same hospital as him so he could thank them for their residence in the United States.

An active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Bennett's faith was also at the forefront of his thoughts as cancer and a stroke left him partially paralyzed. Bennett "recognized parallel between the Mormon experience and the Muslim experience," The Week reported, and he "wanted to see these people treated with kindness and not ostracized."

RECOGNIZING KING ARTHUR FLOUR

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on May 19, 2016, hundreds of guests flooded the Senate's Kennedy Caucus Room for the eleventh annual Taste of Vermont, an event that brings together over 60 businesses that showcase the best Vermont has to offer. From microbreweries to distilleries, farms to creameries, bake shops to chocolatiers, these businesses represent the best of Vermont's many unique, homegrown products. All of these businesses deserve acknowledgment for their contributions to our great State and for putting Vermont's business-friendly environment on the map. I want to take a minute to shine the spotlight on one company in particular.

On the eve of this year's Taste of Vermont, the Employee Stock Ownership Plan, ESOP, Association named King Arthur Flour the 2016 Company of the Year. Founded in 1790, King Arthur Flour epitomizes Vermont values. A business leader within the community, the company is focused on providing quality products to its loyal customers. After relocating to Norwich, VT, in 1984, owners Frank and Brinna Sands sold their company to their employees. They became 100 percent employee-owned in 2004 and have helped numerous other Vermont companies transition to ESOP status, including Heritage Aviation, the most recent Vermont-based company to join the ESOP ranks.

King Arthur Flour has long been dedicated to bettering itself and its community, a laudable and often uncommon commitment from businesses. Currently in the midst of a large expansion of their facilities and programming, King Arthur Flour has adapted to meet the needs of their customers and introduced award-winning gluten-free baking mixes in 2010. The life skills bread baking program recently taught its 120,000th student, and classes from the baking education center have reached over 4,600 bakers.

In King Arthur Flour, I see a commitment to being on the cutting edge of new ideas and developments, while